



St. James High School

10800 HWY 707

Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Grades	9-12 High School	
Enrollment	1,329 Students	
Principal	Vann Pennell	843-650-5600
Superintendent	Dr. Cynthia Elsberry	843-488-6700
Board Chair	Joe DeFeo	843-222-5912

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Excellent	Excellent
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Average
2010	Good	Good
2009	Average	At-Risk

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>

<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
27	4	0	0	2

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 12/14/2013.

High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
Passed 2 subtests (%)	88.2%	85.5%	89.0%	83.3%	82.1%	85.3%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	8.7%	8.6%	6.2%	10.0%	11.5%	9.9%
Passed no subtests (%)	3.1%	5.9%	4.8%	7.3%	6.9%	5.3%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	95.4%	93.0%

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012*	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort	319	319	312	320
Number of Graduates in Cohort	253	271	243	246
Rate	79.3%	85.0%	76.9%	77.7%

*Used to calculate current ESEA/Federal Accountability Grade.

Five-Year Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Cohort	374	310	318	315
Number of Graduates in Cohort	292	257	247	246
Rate	78.1%	82.9%	77.1%	79.4%

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours*
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	90.7%	80.5%
English 1	82.7%	76.0%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	90.3%	81.3%
US History and the Constitution	81.2%	65.1%
All Tests	86.1%	74.9%

* High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n=1,329)				
Retention rate	4.6%	Up from 2.9%	2.6%	2.9%
Attendance rate	95.0%	Up from 94.9%	95.1%	95.1%
Served by gifted and talented program	37.7%	N/A	23.0%	17.5%
With disabilities	13.1%	N/A	11.2%	11.9%
Older than usual for grade	5.8%	N/A	6.3%	7.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	2.8%	No Change	1.2%	1.1%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	22.0%	Down from 34.5%	21.7%	15.1%
Successful on AP/IB exams	67.0%	Up from 64.9%	53.9%	51.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	62.4%	Up from 28.2%	34.2%	30.6%
Annual dropout rate	3.3%	Up from 2.1%	2.5%	2.3%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	8.5%	Up from 6.4%	7.4%	7.2%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	832	Up from 786	638	418
Students participating in work-based experiences	5.5%	Up from 4.8%	15.2%	14.6%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	86.3%	Down from 87.7%	85.4%	84.8%
Career/technology completers placed	98.5%	Up from 98.4%	98.4%	98.3%
Teachers (n=82)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	63.4%	Down from 65.8%	66.7%	63.4%
Continuing contract teachers	84.1%	Down from 85.5%	83.0%	78.8%
Teachers returning from previous year	93.9%	No Change	88.4%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	94.1%	Down from 94.5%	94.6%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$54,000	Up 2.1%	\$50,498	\$48,699
Professional development days/teacher	14.9 days	Up from 12.1 days	11.5 days	9.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	31.8 to 1	Down from 32.8 to 1	27.5 to 1	26.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.2%	Up from 86.8%	88.5%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,282	Up 10.1%	\$7,332	\$7,919
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	56.0%	Down from 56.5%	59.0%	57.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	60.0%	Down from 60.1%	62.0%	60.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	98.0%	Up from 95.7%	96.9%	97.7%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
Modern language program assessment	N/A	N/A	15.0	11.0
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.0

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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Performance By Student Groups

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013		End of Course Tests Passage Rate		On-time Graduation Rate, 2013	
	n	%	t	%	n	%
All Students	284	95.4%	1167	86.1%	319	85.0%
Gender						
Male	155	93.5%	577	87.3%	173	82.1%
Female	129	97.7%	590	84.9%	146	88.4%
Racial/Ethnic Group						
White	243	96.3%	978	88.3%	266	85.7%
African American	23	87.0%	101	72.3%	28	78.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	11	100.0%	27	77.8%	12	91.7%
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	51	78.4%	10	80.0%
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status						
Disabled	29	75.9%	156	64.1%	30	40.0%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	32	62.5%	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status						
Subsidized meals	123	93.5%	531	82.5%	132	75.0%

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

As St. James High School enters its second decade of existence, our faculty, staff, and administration are more focused than ever on their responsibility to provide a premier educational experience to the students who enter our building every day.

Over the past few years, we have seen marked improvement in several of the key areas that are of greatest concern to our stakeholders. The percentage of our students passing end-of-course and exit exams has risen to the highest level in our school's history, and we continue to outpace district and state averages in these areas. Likewise, our on-time graduation rate continues to climb steadily. Once again, we have been awarded the Palmetto Gold award for outstanding achievement as a school, and we were recently recognized by US News and World Report as one of the top high schools in the state of South Carolina. These gains are a testament to the culture of unwavering high expectations that has been embraced by all members of the St. James family.

Away from the classroom, our students continue to excel in a number of athletic and extracurricular activities. As demonstrated by the tremendous number of honors, achievements, awards, and scholarships our students have earned over the past year, these are, simply put, the most well-prepared, well-rounded students our school has ever produced. By working to foster a learning community in which every student feels cared for and accepted, we anticipate nothing but positive growth as we move into the future.

Although sweeping changes, such as the adoption of the Common Core State Standards, continue to reform the landscape of public education, it is evident that certain practices will never go out of style. In the coming year, we are dedicating ourselves to a renewed focus on individualized instruction for all students. We firmly believe that our school's ongoing focus on providing every student with a rigorous, relevant, and engaging high school experience will ensure that every student who leaves St. James has the knowledge and skills necessary to enter college and the workforce as an active, productive member of their community and nation.

We know that the many achievements and gains we have made over the past ten years would not be possible without the backing of dedicated parents, guardians, and community partners, and we look forward to continuing to define our place in this unique community. Together, we can ensure that, like true Sharks, our school continues to move in only one direction - FORWARD!

Vann Pennell, Principal
Sally Young, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	61	254	63
Percent satisfied with learning environment	83.6%	81.4%	95.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	91.8%	86.6%	91.6%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	73.3%	85.8%	89.8%

* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade eleven, only the highest grade was included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	83.2
Overall Grade Conversion	B

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

St. James High School school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality Data

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.6%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.6%	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.3%	0.0%	No

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Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
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Grades 9-12

All Students	239.7	236.4	83.1	77.9	99.2	98.9	79.3
Male	236.8	236.6	84.8	79.6	98.3	98.3	71.0
Female	242.5	236.2	81.6	76.0	100.0	99.4	86.2
White	241.5	237.5	84.2	78.3	99.0	98.7	81.0
African American	N/A	N/A	74.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	78.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	212.0	205.6	68.2	N/A	100.0	100.0	56.5
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	234.5	231.3	80.1	76.3	99.4	98.8	72.3
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	226	223	77	73	95.0	95	74.1

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Two-Year HSAP Trend Data

	School Year	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*
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English/Language Arts

All Students	2012	342	98.8	8.9	27.1	33.0	31.0	64.0
	2013	358	99.2	5.6	24.2	33.0	37.2	70.1

Mathematics

All Students	2012	342	98.5	10.7	27.0	30.6	31.8	62.3
	2013	358	98.9	9.9	26.0	33.1	31.1	64.1

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